

**UTILITY GUNDOG SOCIETY (EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH)
COVID-19 STATEMENT OF PROCEDURE FOR FIELD TRIALS 2020/21 TO BE HELD ON THE AMPTON
ESTATE**

The committee has agreed to implement the measures set out below having regard to Government Guidelines appertaining at the time at UGS (EC) trials, but may, at any time, adapt these measures as necessary to meet updated Kennel Club advice and/or Government Guidelines.

General:

All attendees must provide their own face mask and hand sanitiser to use at appropriate times.

A register will be kept of attendees, together with their contact details.

Spectators and other non-essential persons will not be allowed to attend the field trials, unless specific permission has been granted by the Field Trial Secretary

A Covid Officer will be appointed for each trial and will be named on the running card.

Nobody may attend if they reside in an area covered by a local lockdown imposed by the Government.

Everyone attending must be aware that, if they, or anyone in their household, has Covid-19 related symptoms or has tested positive for Covid-19, or are awaiting test results, they must not attend the trial and should self-isolate in line with Government Guidelines.

There will be no physical contact between anyone attending a trial and appropriate social distancing will be required at all times.

Anyone not following the guidelines, or who is deemed to be putting the wellbeing of others at risk, by the Covid Officer, will be asked to leave immediately.

Reasonable effort will be made to ensure there is enough space around parked vehicles to maintain social distancing.

UGS and the host will endeavour to ensure that everyone attending the trials will be able to travel around, either on foot or in their own vehicles.

No refreshments will be provided and all those attending are asked to provide their own.

Competitors:

Entry forms are to be returned to the Field Trial Secretary by post, together with the appropriate fees.

If a competitor is handling more than one dog, an individual from their own household or bubble must attend to hold the additional dog. The name and contact details of this person to be given to the Field Trial Secretary in advance.

Competitors are asked to be considerate of others when in close proximity having regard to social distancing.

The results of the draw and the running card will be sent out electronically.

COMPETITORS WILL CARRY THEIR OWN GAME, which will be collected at prescribed locations during the day. Retrieved game will be handed to the judge, whilst maintaining as much distance as possible, for examination. It will then be handed back and the handler will put it in their own bag. Both will then sanitise their hands.

Certificates will have the judges' names filled in and will be pre-signed by the Field Trial Secretary. These will be bagged 7 days before the trial. They will be handed out using gloves or sanitised hands and the award winners will fill in their own name and dog's name. This will be ratified visually by the judges and the Field Trial Secretary. Trophies that are awarded will be bagged or boxed. These will need to be signed for by the recipient whilst wearing gloves.

Judges:

Judge's books and J Regs and pencils must be provided by the judges themselves and should not be shared.

Judges are asked to provide their own refreshments but the cost of this can be added to their expenses. Expenses will be paid by bank transfer and judges are asked to give their bank details and the amount to the Treasurer, Julia Reed.

In accordance with the Kennel Club's Operational Plan, Game Certificates will not be required to be completed and it will be assumed that the conditions of the stake were such as to enable the dogs to be satisfactorily tested. If this is not the case, the Kennel Club Field Trial Department must be notified within 7 days.

After the retrieved game is checked by the judge it is to be handed back to the handler (unless there is doubt over hard mouth) at as much distance as is possible. The judge and the handler to then sanitise hands (or change gloves if used).

Face masks should be worn during any conferring between judges (however, if the conditions are wet, these are not effective, then strict social distancing must be observed).

The Kennel Club are encouraging judges to submit online evaluation forms via the KC website. A hard copy will not be provided.

Officials and Helpers:

All equipment used must be provided by the individual. If this is not possible, gloves must be worn and equipment must be thoroughly wiped down with provided antibacterial wipes before and after use. This includes radios which must not be swapped between users without being sanitised.

Guns:

Shotguns must be handled by the owner only and cartridges must not be transferred between individuals. Guns must be mindful of the location of the gallery and the others in the line when shooting. They must follow the Steward of the Beat's instructions.

